

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

**MT DROUGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**RESERVOIR AND RIVER OPERATIONS**

**April 12, 2012**



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# RECLAMATION

## *Managing Water in the West*



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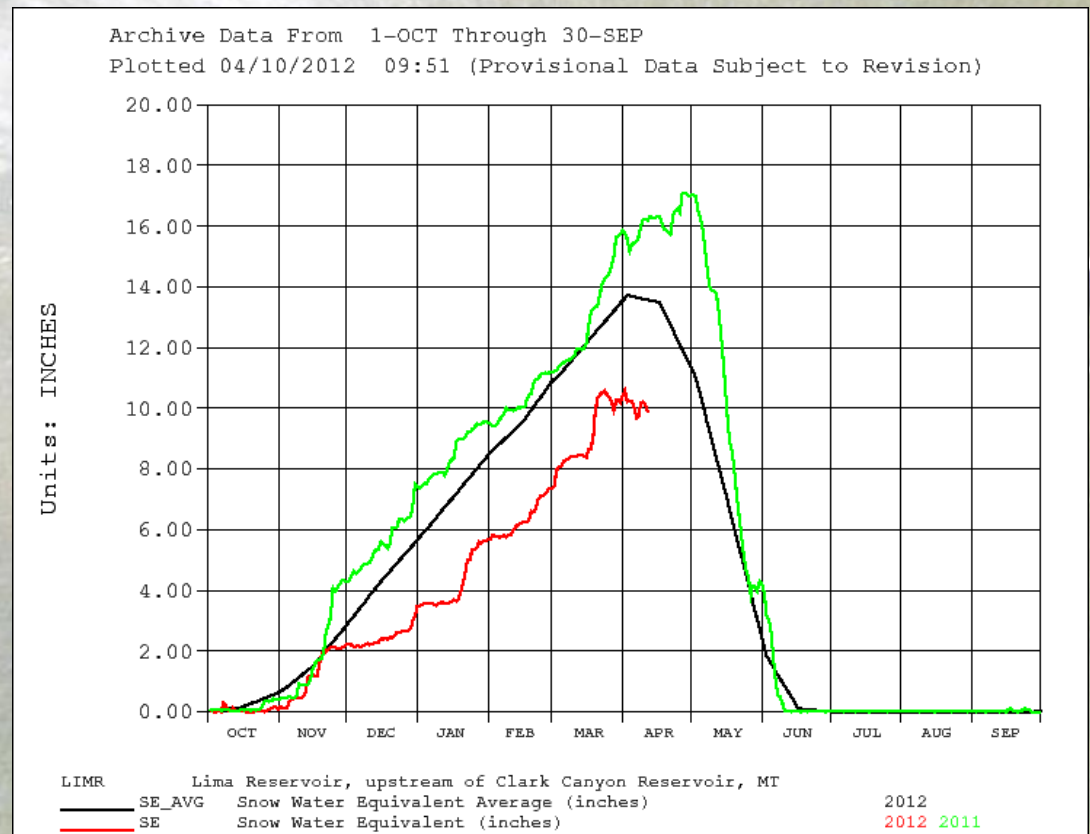


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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Lima Reservoir

Snowpack @ 73% of average



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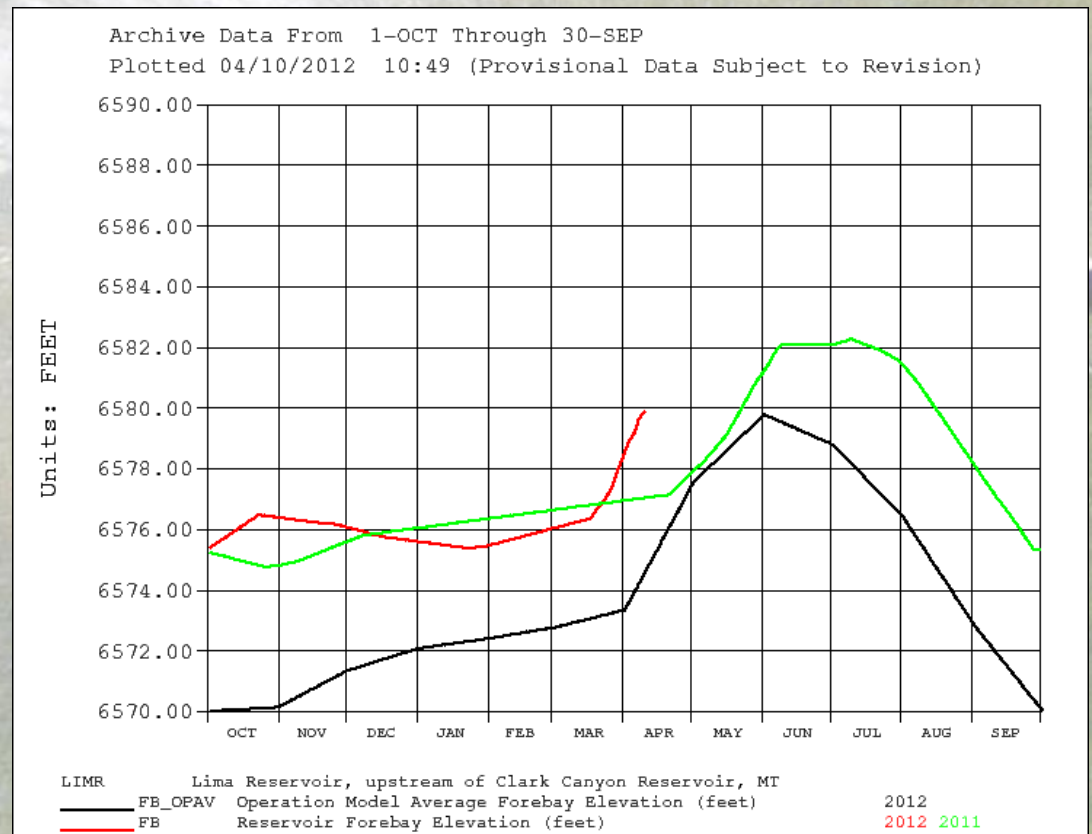
### Lima Reservoir

Inflows to Lima are currently above average

Storage @ 152% of average & 79% full

Releases have been increased to 280 cfs

Water supply outlook looks favorable for water users to receive a full water supply In 2012



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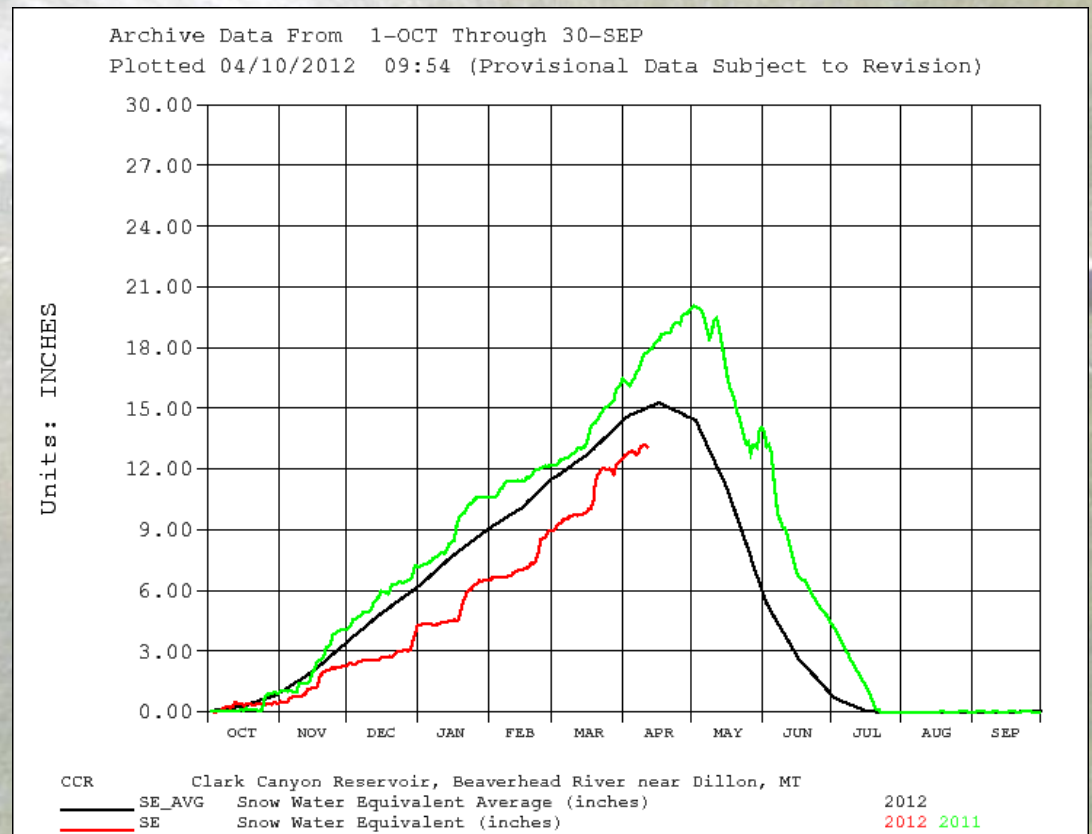


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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Clark Canyon Reservoir

Snowpack @ 87% of average



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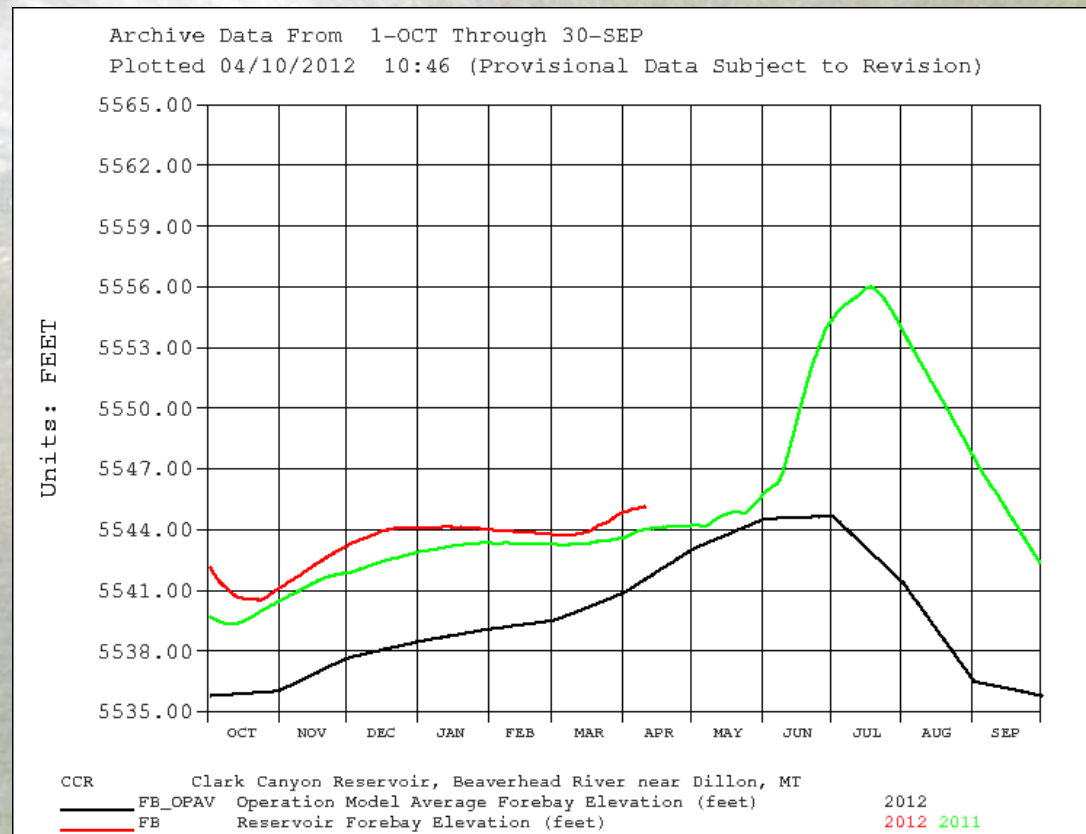
### Clark Canyon Reservoir

Inflows to Clark Canyon are 115% of average

Storage @ 112% of average, 98% full, & 1.1 ft or 5,700 af higher than last year

Releases are being maintained at 250 cfs, allowing the reservoir to slowly fill

Water supply outlook is favorable for EBID & CCWSC to receive full water supply in 2012



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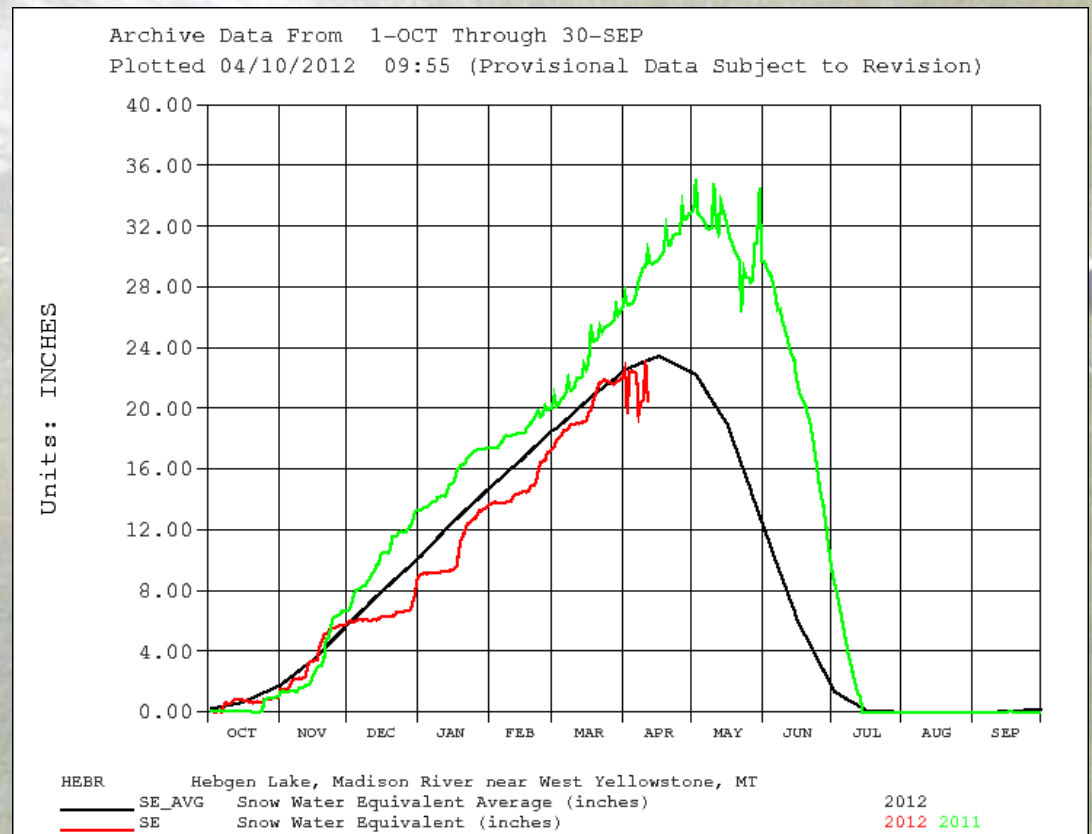


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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Hebgen Reservoir (PPL-MT)

Snowpack @ 94% of average



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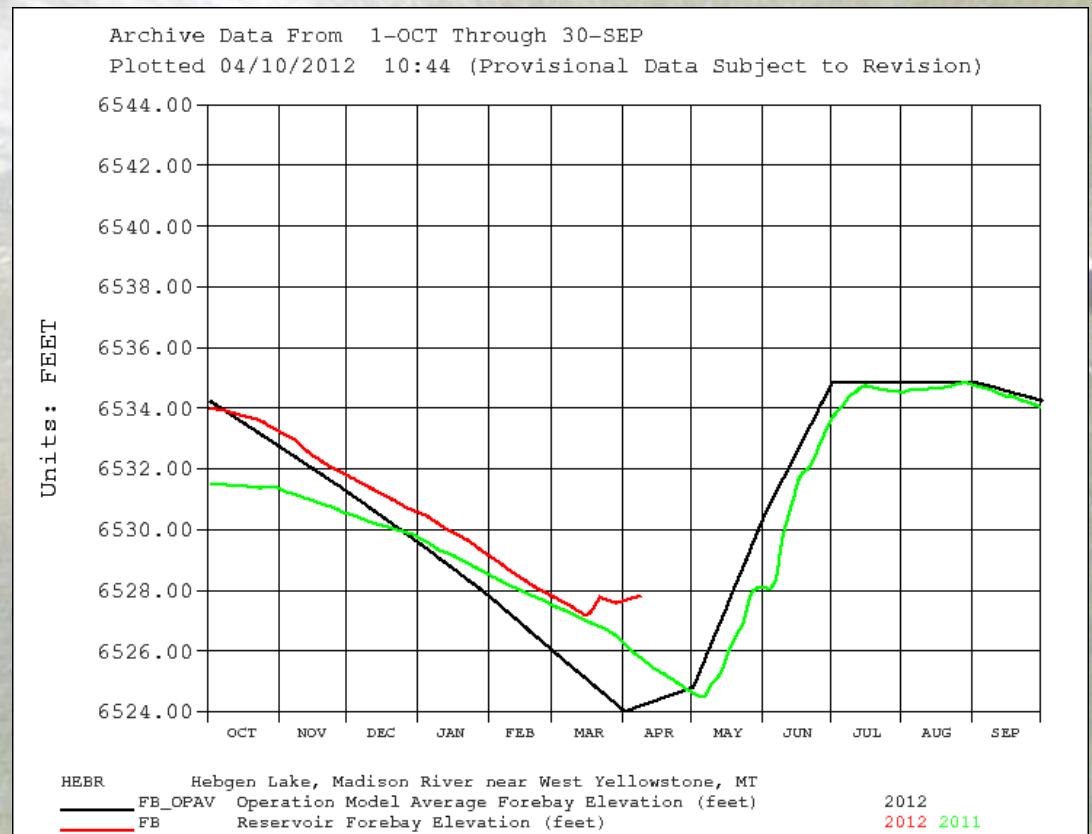
### Hebgen Reservoir (PPL-MT)

Currently releasing 1,125 cfs to Madison River

Storage @ 115% of average, 80% full, & 2.0 ft or 21,900 af higher than last year

Reservoir is currently @ elevation at 6527.84 & is expected to remain fairly level or begin to slowly increase

Water supply outlook is good & reservoir is expected to fill

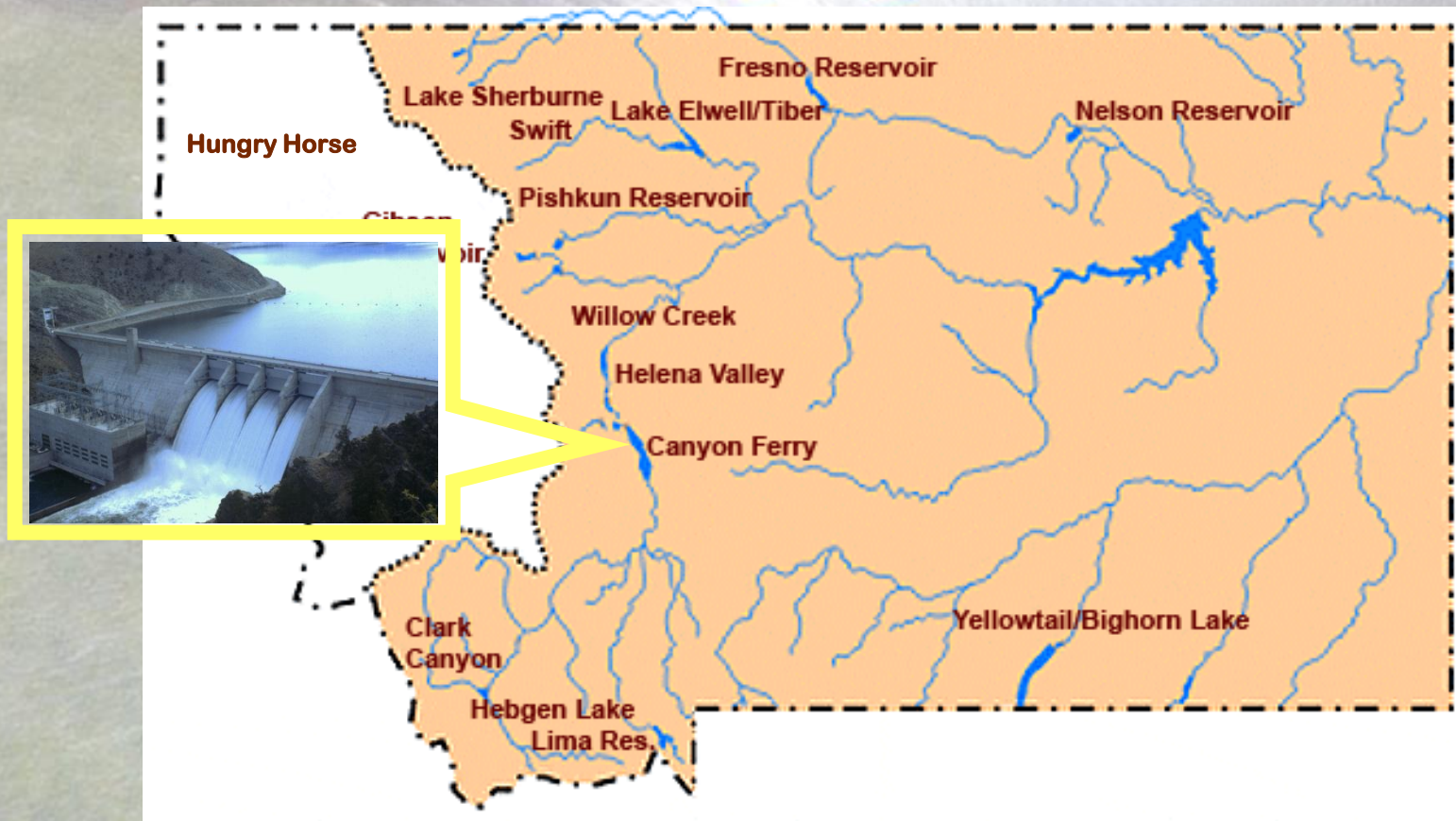


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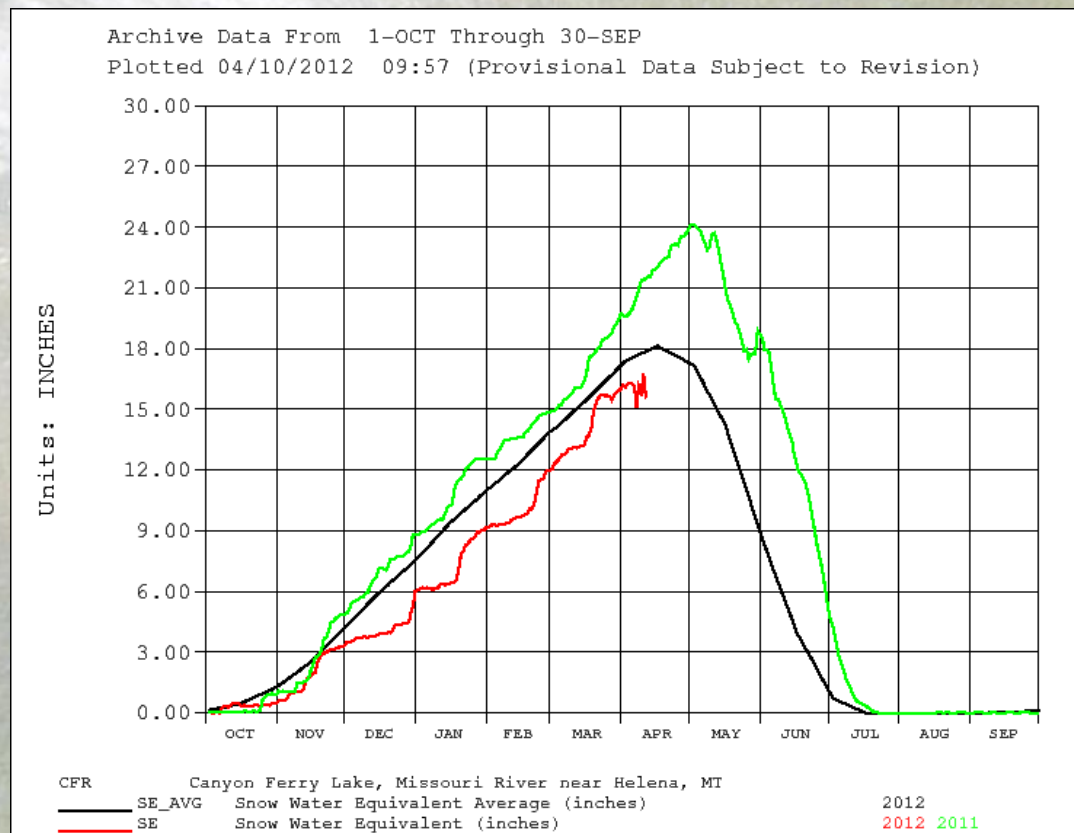


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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Canyon Ferry Reservoir

Snowpack @ 93% of average



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# RECLAMATION

## *Managing Water in the West*

### Canyon Ferry Reservoir

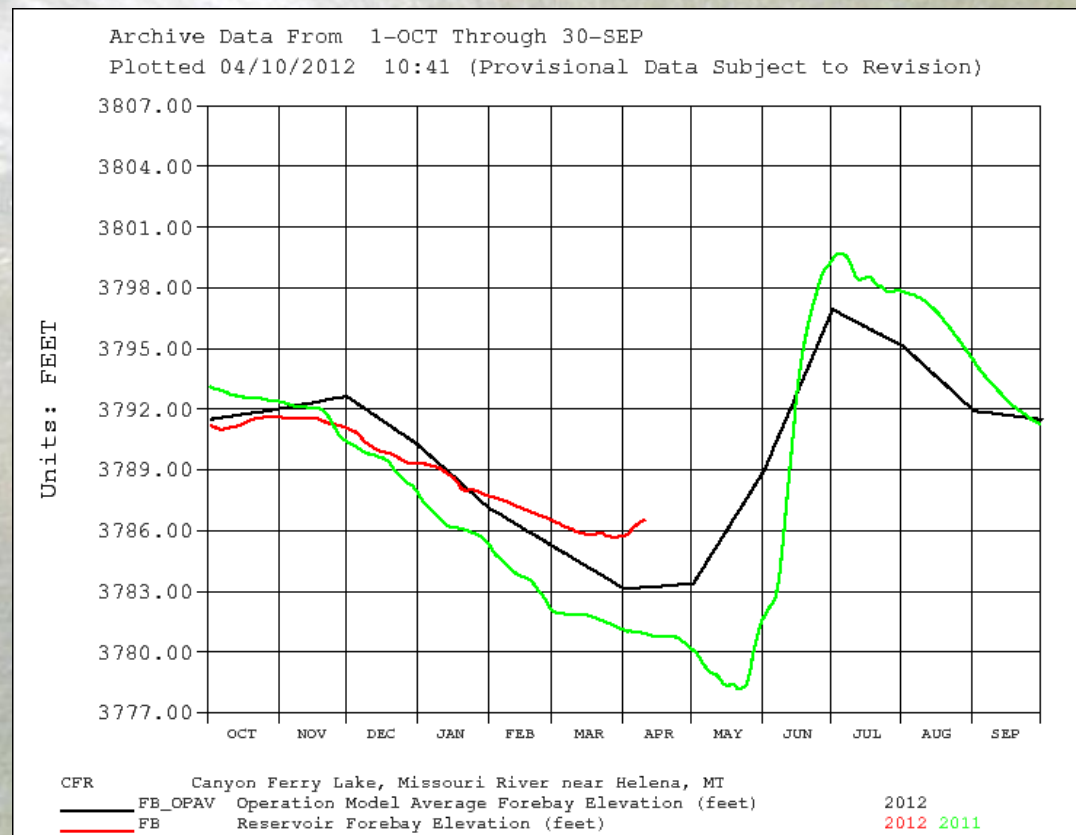
**Inflows @ 127% of average**

**Storage @ 107% of average,  
82% full, & 5.5 ft higher than last  
year**

**Releases to the Missouri River  
are being maintained near 5,400  
cfs**

**Expect storage to fill to normal  
full pool by end of June**

**Water supply outlook is  
favorable for maintaining  
releases above 4,100 cfs all year**



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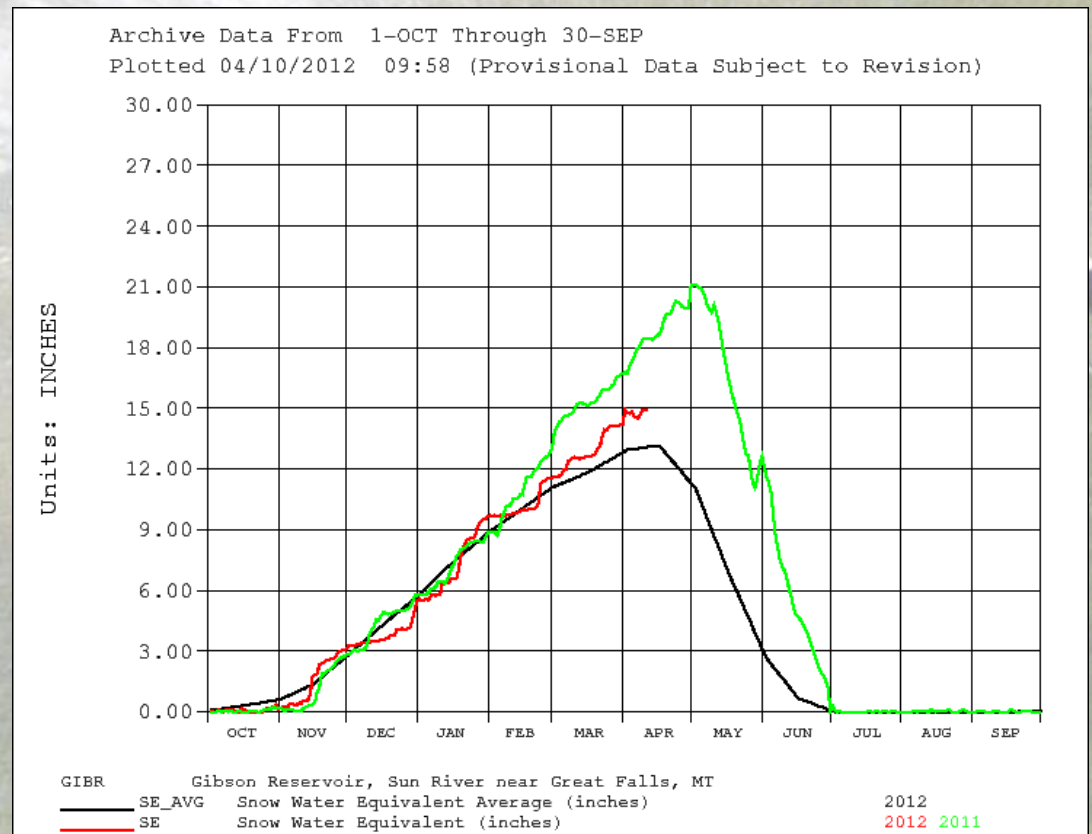


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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Gibson Reservoir

Snowpack @ 114% of average



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# RECLAMATION

## *Managing Water in the West*

### Gibson Reservoir

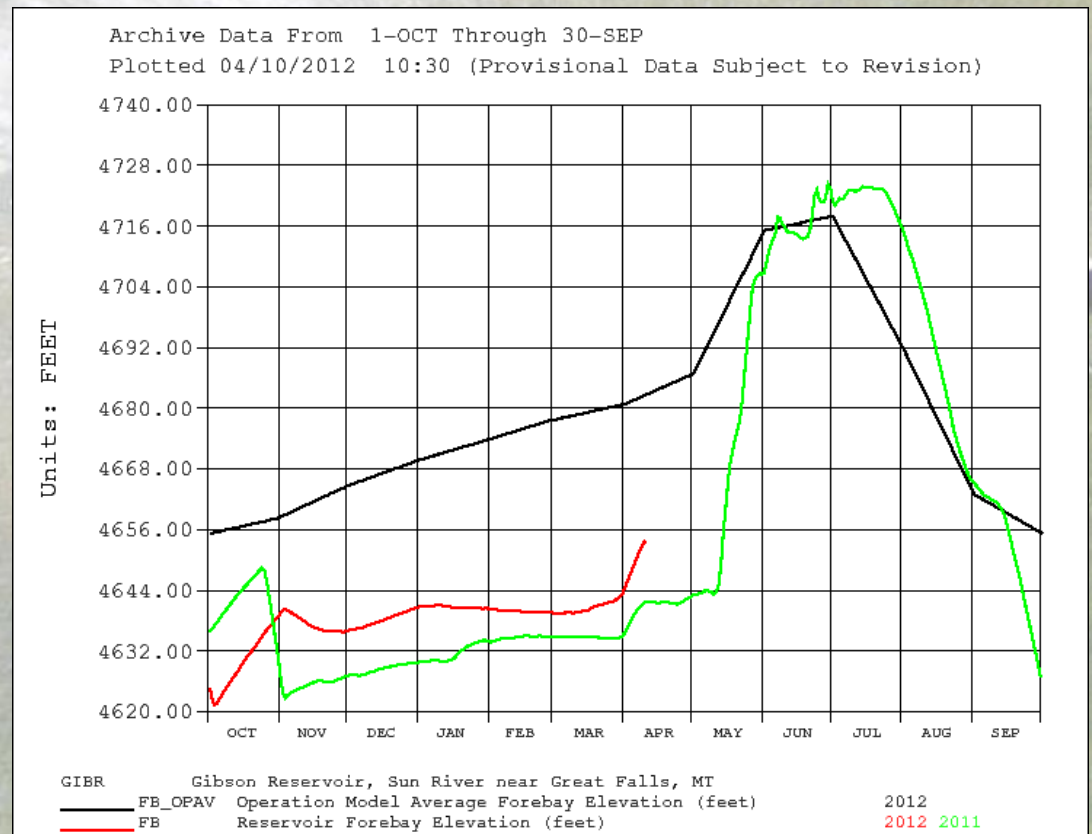
Inflows are 90% of average

Storage @ 57% of average, 29% full, and 11.7 ft or 7,000 af higher than last year

Storages in Willow Creek & Pishkun Reservoirs are 129% & 99% of average for this time of year

Releasing 200 cfs to Sun River

Expect to fill Gibson in late May or early June and water users are expected to receive a full water supply this year



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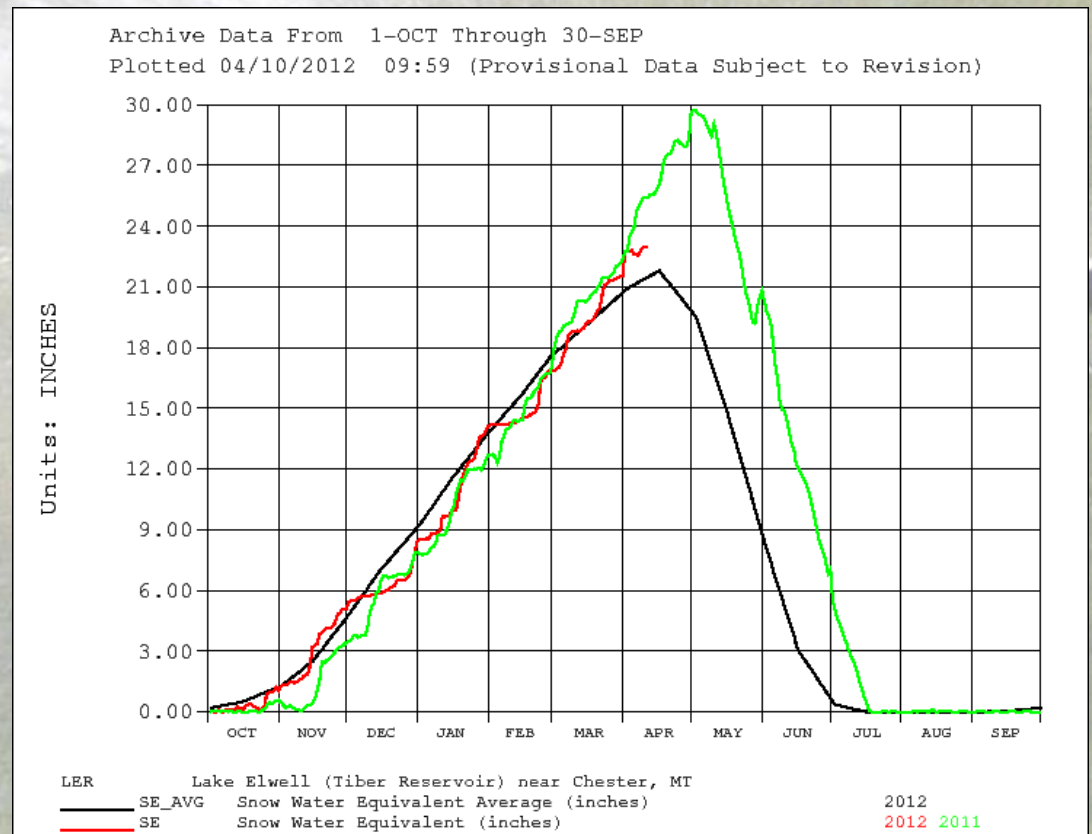


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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Tiber Reservoir – Lake Elwell

Snowpack @ 107% of average



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# RECLAMATION

## *Managing Water in the West*

### Tiber Reservoir – Lake Elwell

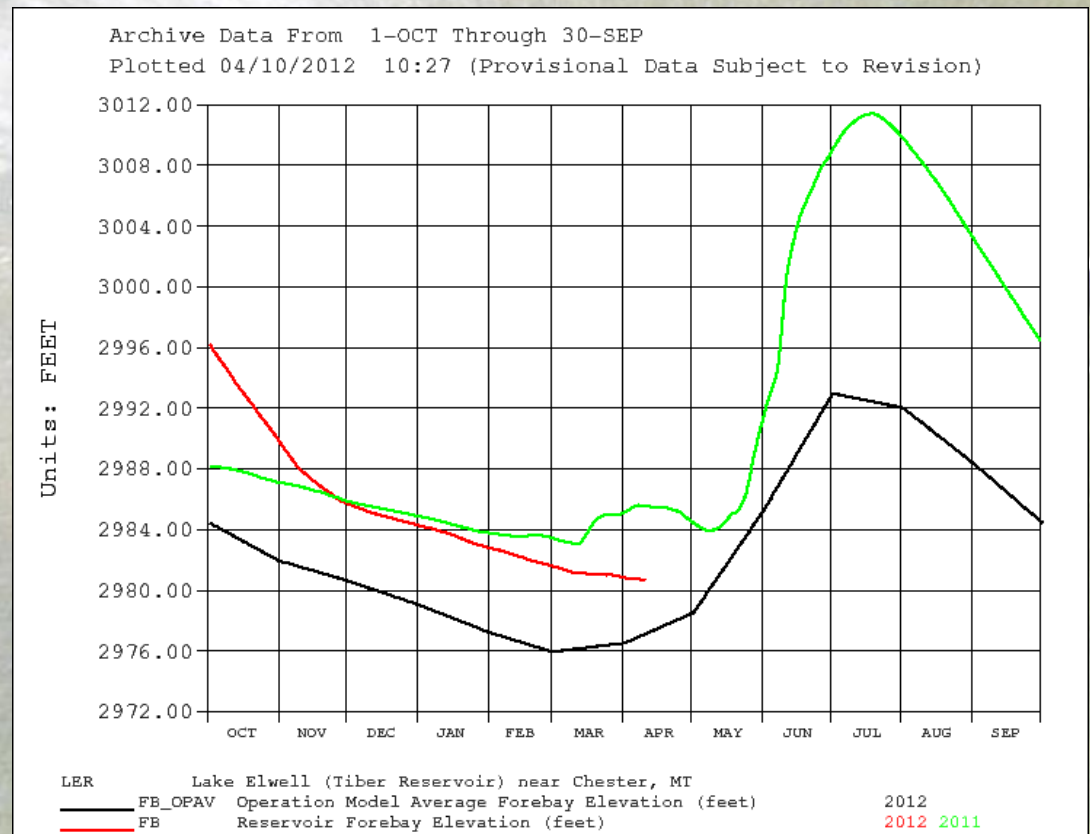
Inflows are about 70% of average

Storage @ 107% of average, 79% full and 4.9 ft lower than last year

Maintaining releases at 600 cfs in preparation for the spring snowmelt runoff

Tiber is expected to fill to the top of the normal full pool by mid-to-late June

Water supply outlook is good



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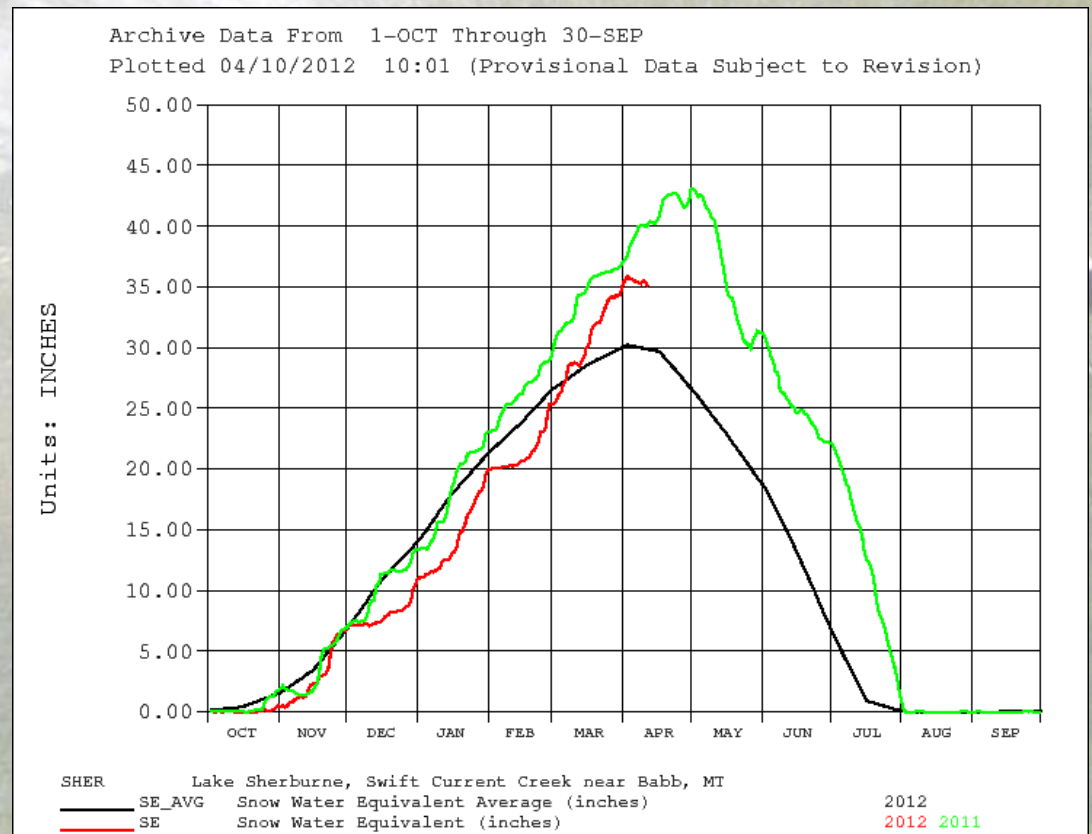


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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Lake Sherburne

Snowpack @ 117% of average



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## *Managing Water in the West*

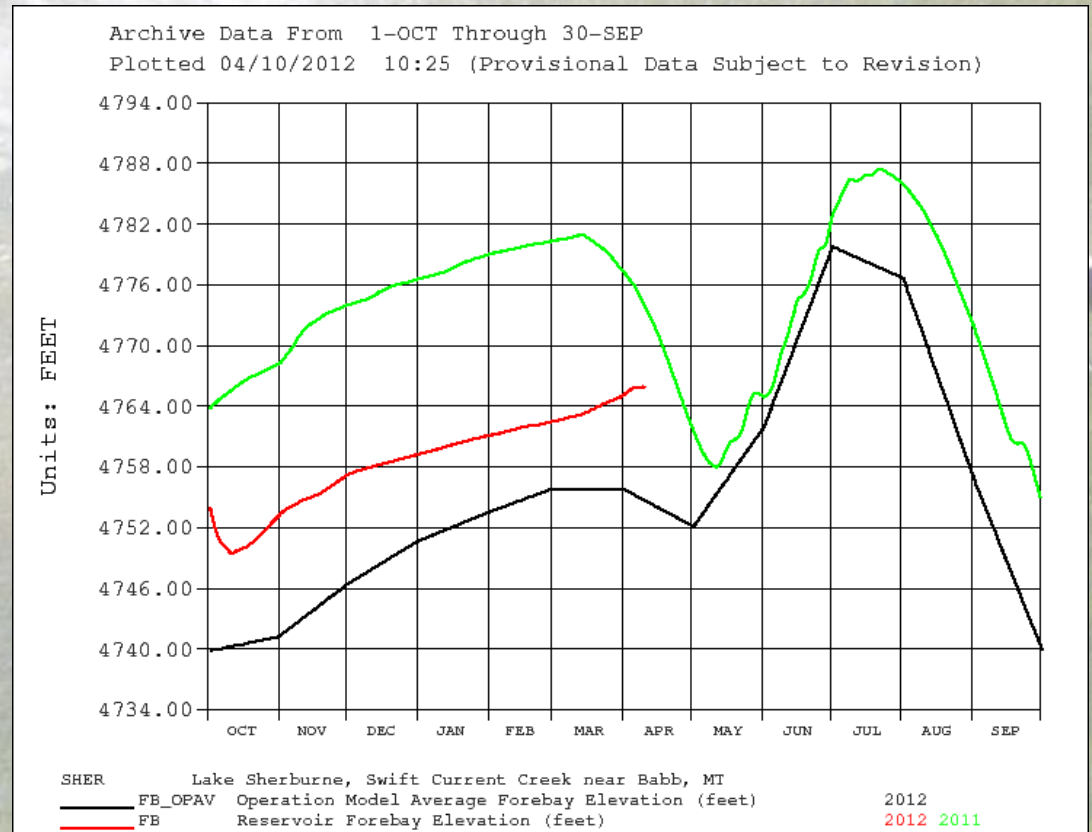
### Lake Sherburne

Inflows are about 55% of average

Storage @ 158 percent of average, 51% full, and 8.3 feet or 10,700 af lower than last year

Releases are being maintained at 100 cfs out of Sherburne

Water supply outlook for Milk River Project is good & all water users are expected to receive a full water supply this year

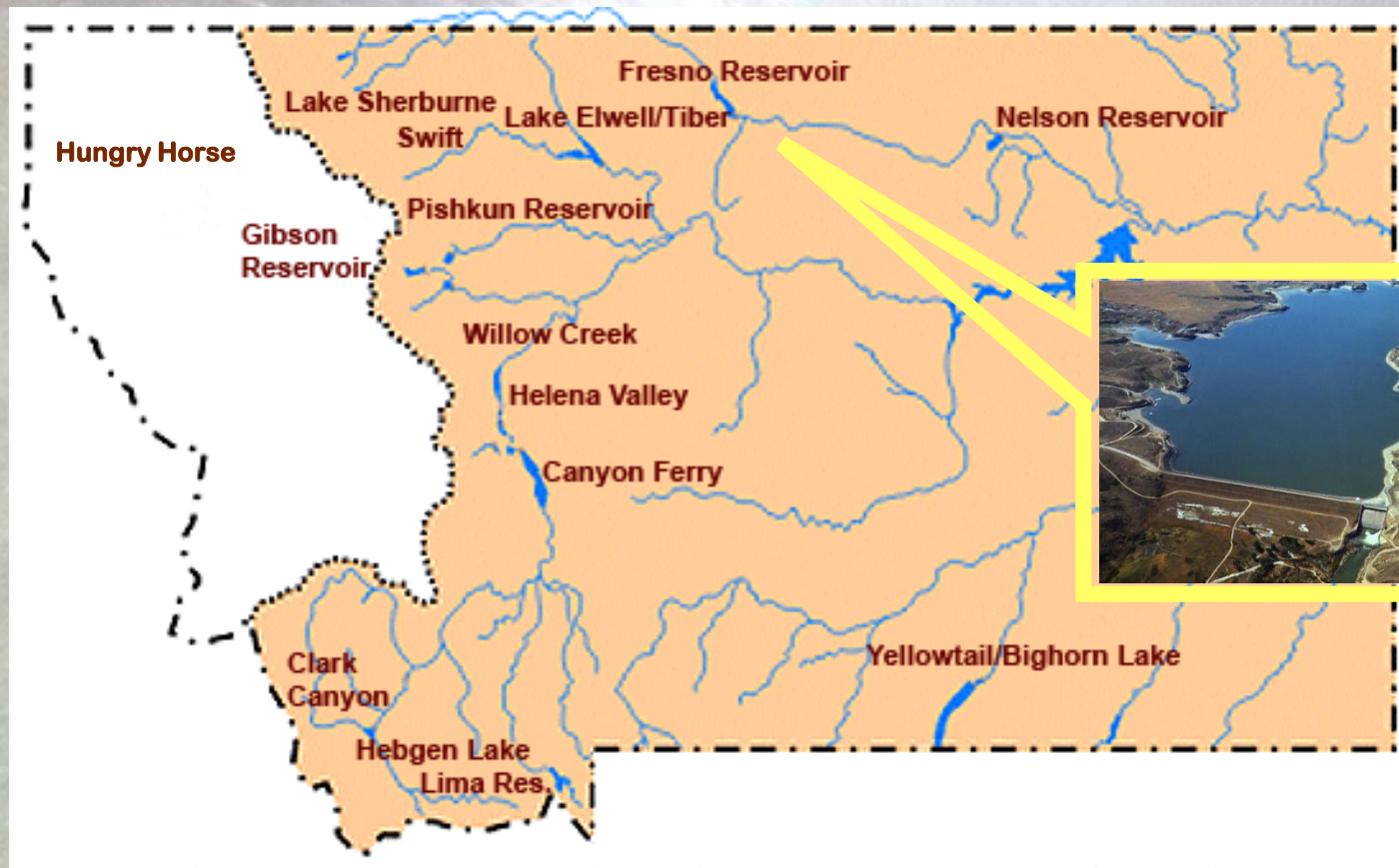


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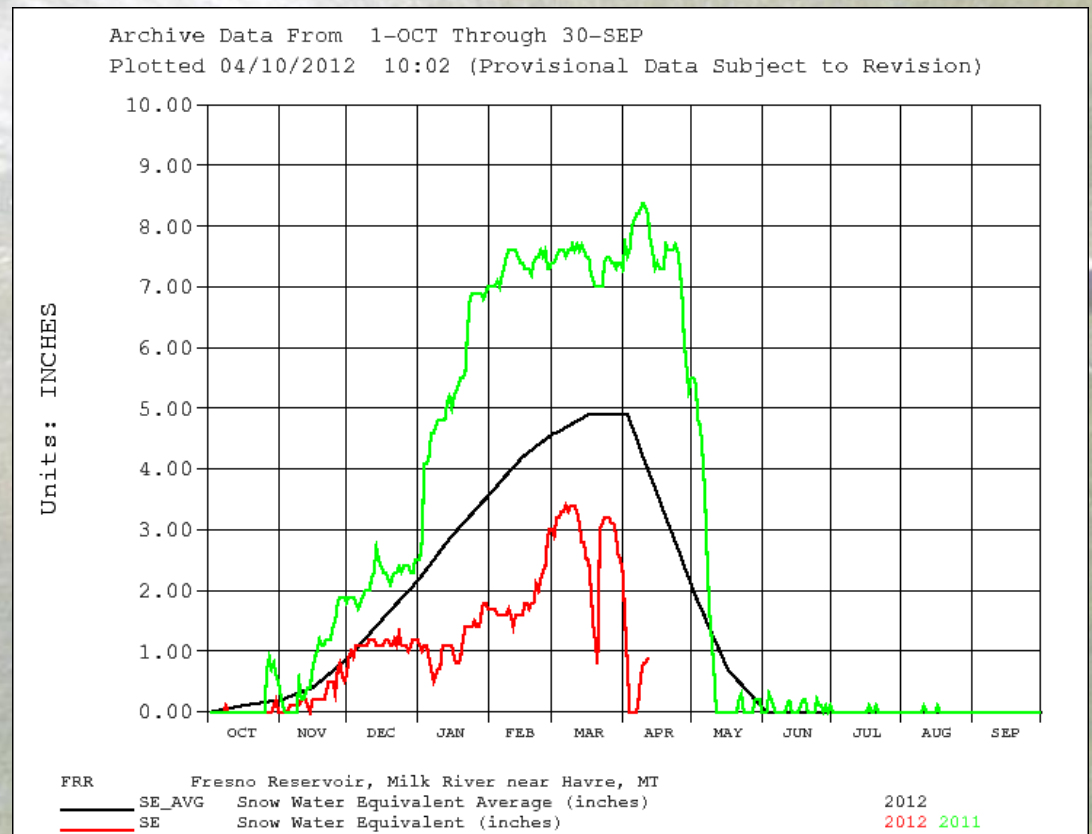


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### Fresno Reservoir

Snowpack @ 19% of average



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### Fresno Reservoir

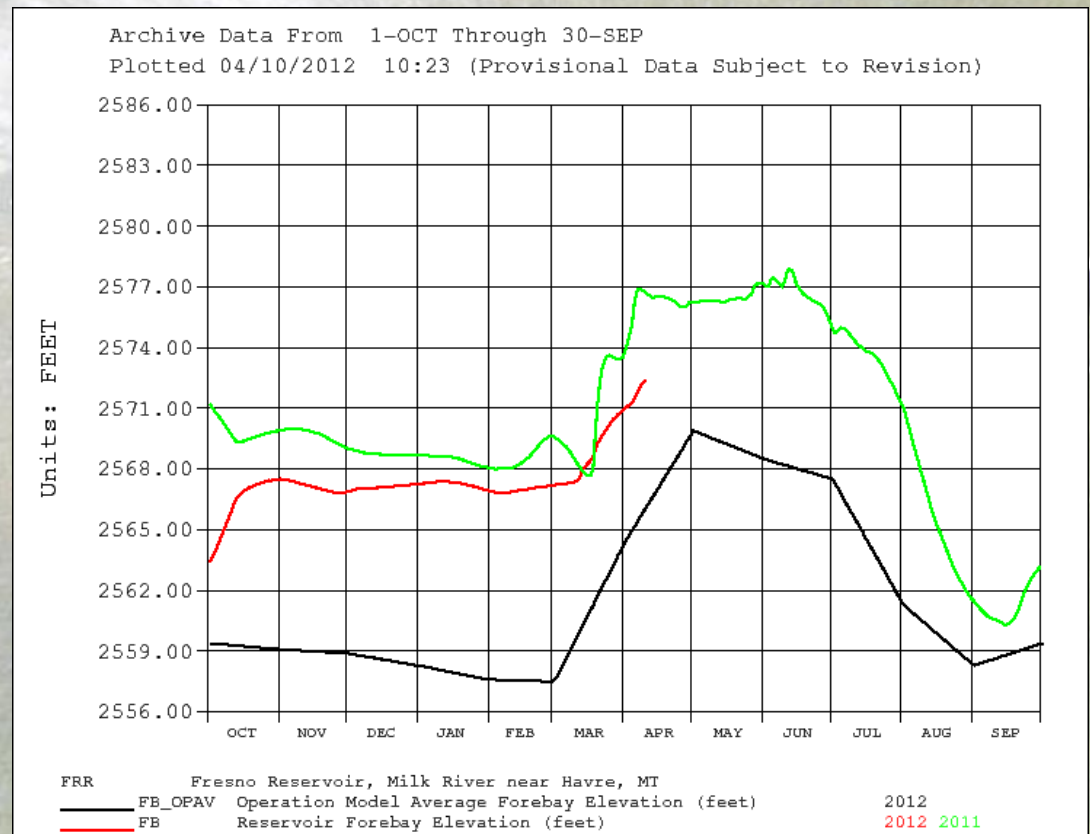
All diversions from the St. Mary Basin to Milk River are 100 cfs.

Storage @ 141% of average, 87% full, and 4.6 ft or 21,900 af lower than last year

Currently releasing 50 cfs to the Milk River

Storage is expected to slowly fill by late April or early May

Water supply outlook is good and all water users are expected to receive a full water supply this year



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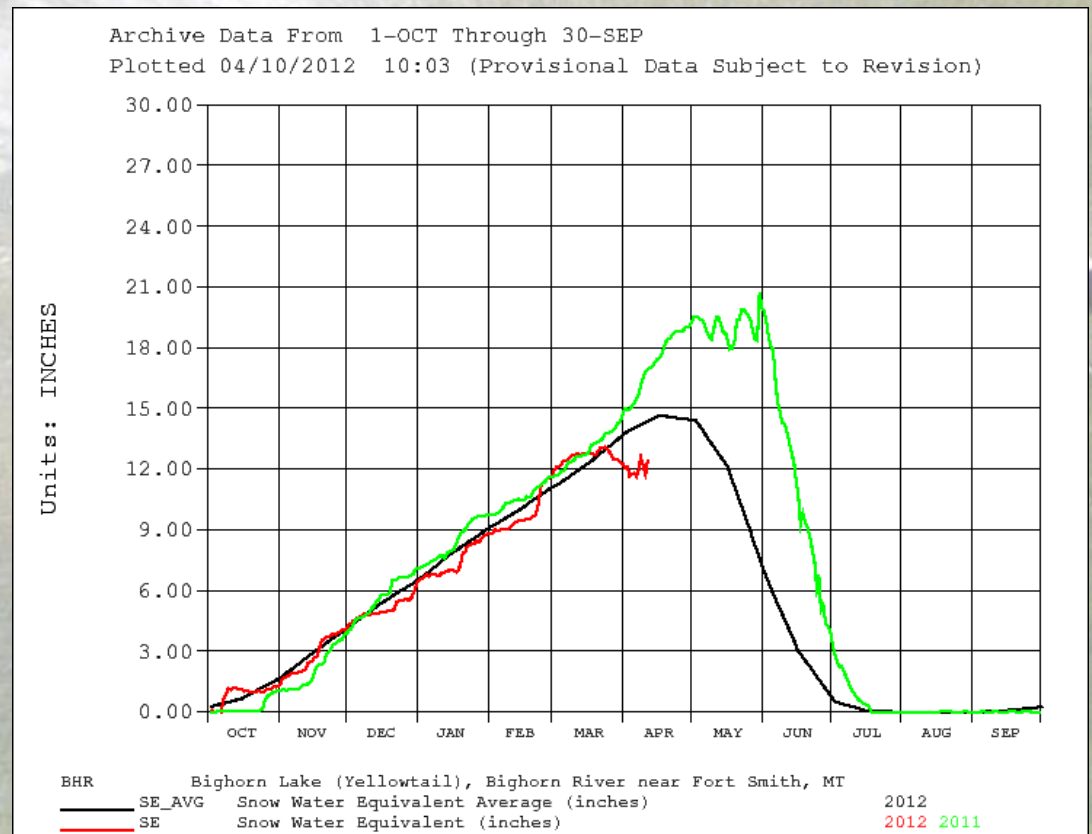


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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Bighorn Lake (Yellowtail Reservoir)

Snowpack @ 87% of average



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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Bighorn Lake (Yellowtail Reservoir)

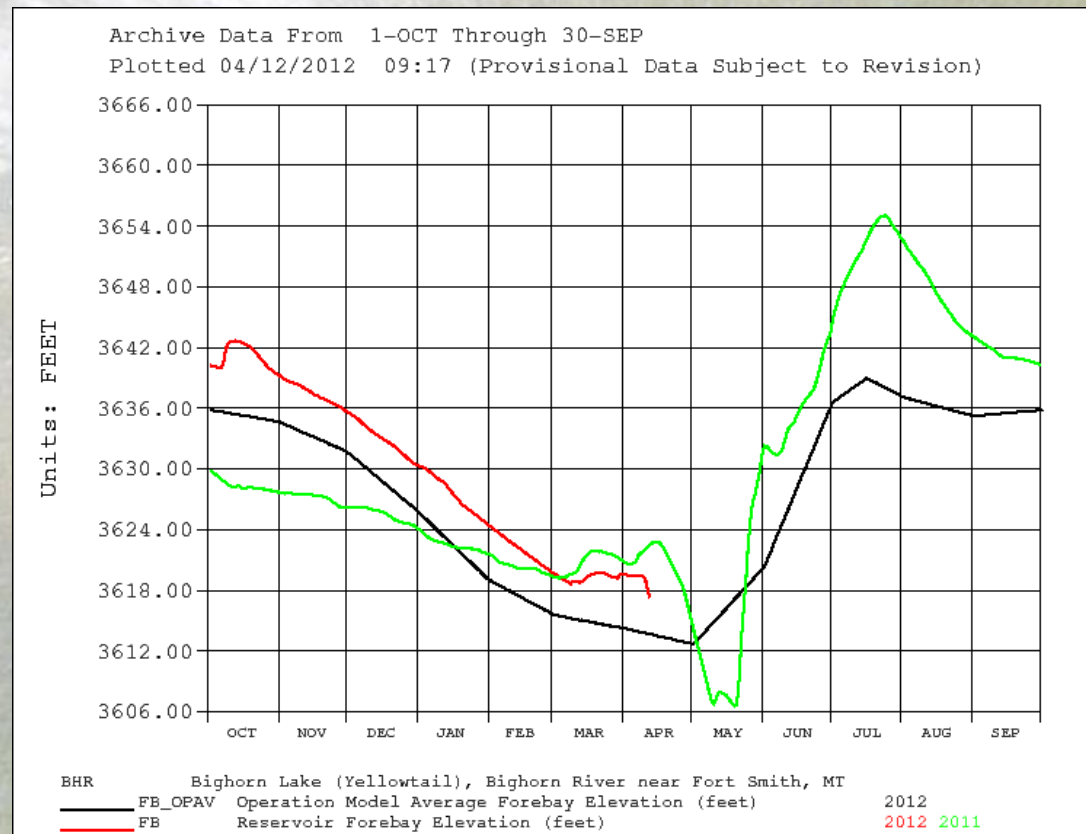
Inflow @ about 120% of average

Storage @ 103% of average, 79% full, and 5.0 feet lower than last year

Releasing 2,880 cfs to Bighorn River

Expect to fill Bighorn Lake in early July and maintain a release @ or above 2,500 cfs all year

Water supply outlook is good

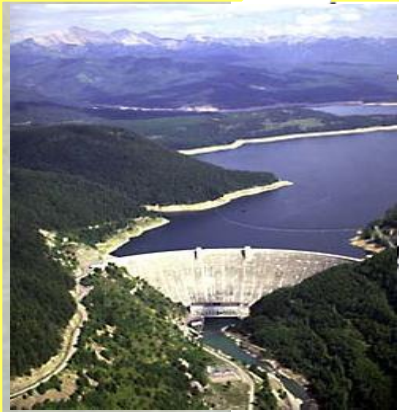


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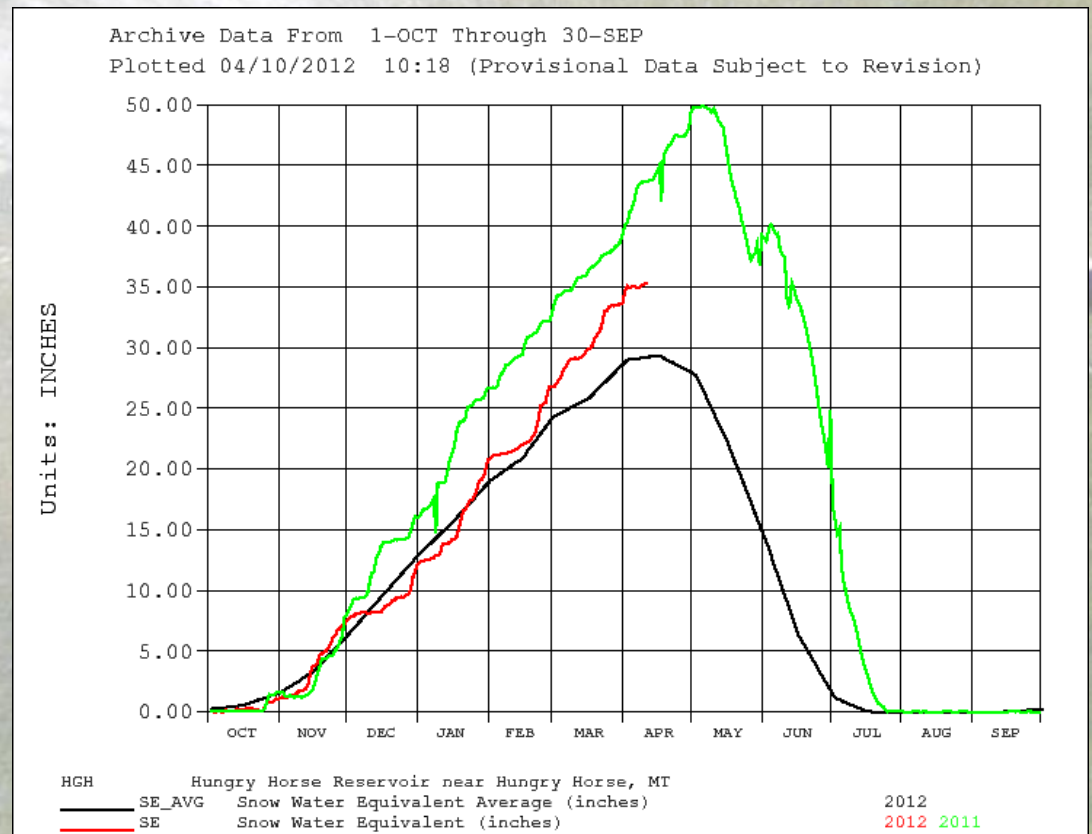


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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Hungry Horse Reservoir

Snowpack @ 115% of average



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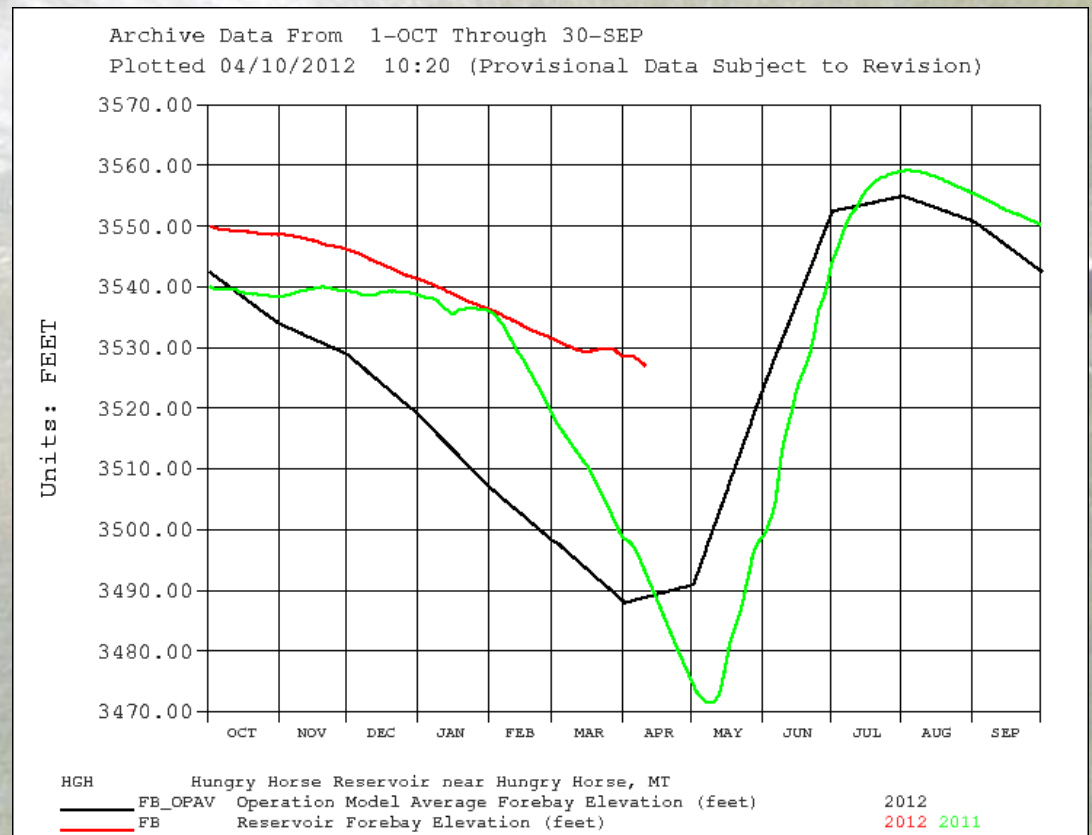
## *Managing Water in the West*

### Hungry Horse Reservoir

**Storage @ 134% of average & 79% full**

**Releasing 6,500 cfs to the South Fork of the Flathead River**

**Plan are to continue evacuating storage until mid May and then allow Hungry Horse to gradually fill by mid to late July**



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### BUREAU OF RECLAMATION PROJECTS

Current Conditions - March 14, 2012

Acre-Feet

RESERVOIR NAME	CONTENT KAF	% OF AVG	SNOW WATER CONTENT	% OF AVG	APR-JUL KAF FORECAST	% OF AVG
Clark Canyon	170,300	112	13.06	88	95	87
Canyon Ferry	1,554,000	107	16.65	94	1,809	94
Gibson	28,400	57	14.95	114	488	112
Lake Elwell	729,300	107	22.98	107	490	122
Lake Sherburne	33,700	158	35.05	118	113	111
Fresno Reservoir	80,800	141	0.90	19	69	83
Bighorn Lake	809,911	103	12.46	82	1,064	93



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### Summary of Reservoir Conditions

- Operations are continuing in accordance with Rule Curve objectives.
- With exception of Gibson, all reservoirs are at above normal pool levels for this time of year.
- All Reclamation water users are expected to receive full water supplies this year.
- At this time, no major changes in operations at Reclamation reservoirs are anticipated. Reclamation will continue to closely monitor hydrologic and climatic conditions and will be prepared to make the necessary changes as needed.



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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Reclamation's Internet Website

<http://www.usbr.gov/gp/water/>

- near real-time data available through the HYDROMET data system
- summaries and plots of historical data
- annual reservoir operating plan publication
- monthly water supply reports
- project data
- snow plots
- links to related internet sites



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